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THE HAWKS' HERALD

The student newspaper of Roger Williams University

Vol. 21, Issue 12

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FREE

Laptop thief returns to campus

KEVIN TERBUSH | Herald Reporter

BEN WHITMORE | News Editor

Students and faculty in the School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation (SAAHP) remain vigilant after a man who was found with stolen Roger Williams University laptops and a student's external hard drive last fall showed up on campus late last month.

Allen P. Carpenter, 27, of Swansea, Mass., was seen on campus on Jan. 30, according to Public Safety. Carpenter, a student at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, was arrested in 2011 by the Dartmouth, Mass. Police Department for theft of stolen property, according to Public Safety. Following his arrest, two RWU-owned laptops, which had been reported missing, were found in

Carpenter's apartment, Public Safety said.

Carpenter is described as a white male, standing 5-feet-9-inches, with brown hair and brown eyes, according to Public Safety.

Recently, RWU issued a No Trespass Order against Carpenter, Public Safety said.

In order to raise awareness about Carpenter's recent presence on campus, posters with a

picture of Carpenter and details about what to do if he is spotted were hung on campus. Many posters were put up in the SAAHP, a building from which Carpenter allegedly stole computers and other equipment.

"I think there are eight or ten of them up around the building," said Stephen White, Dean of Architecture. "We thought it went along with the strong feelings everyone had that we want

to get this guy out of here," White said.

Students in the fall became very aware of these thefts. According to freshman architecture student Cassandra Baron, the faculty has tried to keep students updated and alert.

"Since the fall, we've had meetings with the dean about it," Baron said. "They were talk

See THIEF, page A2

Crossing the line

Racial slur
and violent
image drawn
on whiteboard
outside student's
door dubbed
'hate crime'

ALISON ROCHFORD | Herald Reporter

Roger Williams University continues the search for the perpetrator of a hate crime that occurred in a Willow Townhouse in the early morning of Jan. 28, according to Steven Melaragno, Director of Public Safety.

Racist graffiti was drawn on a whiteboard hanging on the dorm room door of an African-American student, Melaragno said.

Someone drew a "racially charged message, and a very violent cartoon image of a hangman's noose, and someone hanging from the noose," Melaragno said.

Upon finding this image, the student "took a picture of it with her phone, and then she erased it off the whiteboard," Melaragno said. She then reported the incident to Public Safety, and sent them the image of the graffiti. Public Safety declined to release the image, which Melaragno

See BIAS, page A2

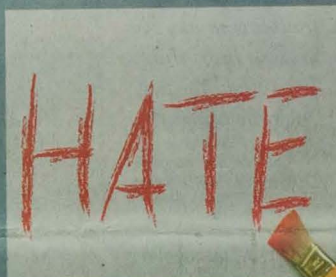


ILLUSTRATION MARK FUSCO

Class act

Junior semi formal sets
attendance record for
annual event

KEVIN TERBUSH | Herald Reporter

The Inter Class Council's (ICC) Class of 2013 drew record attendance to its annual Junior Semi-Formal on Feb. 3 at the Marriott Hotel in Newport, R.I. ICC reported 408 guests this year, a sum that breaks its previous record of 325, set at last year's dance.

According to many students, the night was very enjoyable. Aside from some difficulties with transportation in the beginning and a few incidents involving alcohol, the event received much approval.

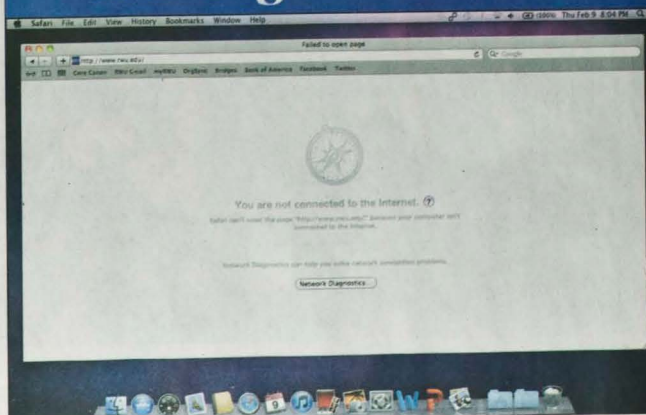
"It was a lot of fun, there were tons of people there, and the Marriott was beautiful," said Danielle Bailey, a junior. "Everyone looked awesome and the food was delicious."

The driving force behind this successful night was the effort put in by Inter Class Council and the leaders of the junior class. The advertising and organization put into the event was a large reason for the record attendance.

"We started planning this back in June," said Sean Thompson, Assistant Director of Student

See SEMI, page A3

RWU goes offline



PAGE A2

PAGE NOT FOUND



Falling gracefully

Sophomore Adam Stanley leads Hawks at New England Championships

PAGE A6

INDEX

News.....	A2	Features.....	B2
Editor's Desk.....	A5	Opinions.....	B4
Sports.....	A6	Puzzles.....	B6

BIAS: Search for perpetrator continues

Continued from page A1

said is evidence in an ongoing investigation.

In the time after the incident, the student has withdrawn from the university, according to Melaragno.

Following notification of the incident, the University responded with both the residence life staff and the Public Safety staff, said Kathleen McMahon, Dean of Students.

"The university is taking it 'all very seriously,'" McMahon added, because the presence of vandalism "makes it into a hate crime."

The University Bias Response Team is an organization comprised of students and faculty that works to "educate, increase knowledge about bias incidences and to be transparent about what happens in our community," according to the University website.

The Bias Response Team defines a bias incident as "behavior which constitutes an expression of hostility against the person or property of another because of the targeted person's race, religion, ethnicity/national origin, gender or sexual orientation," according to the University website.

"That combination of racially-motivated language directed towards somebody and then a crime being committed, which is the vandalism, is what makes it into a hate crime versus a bias incident," McMahon said.

In addressing hate crime, the University follows a protocol to not only identify the perpetrator, but to also send out a notice to the community alerting people that a hate crime has been committed, and reinforce the fact that the University has zero-tolerance for it, McMahon said.

According to Melaragno, Public Safety first tried to "identify who had access to the building" during the night of the incident. Investigators then proceeded to interview the residents of the unit where the hate crime was committed, according to McMahon. The Immediate Action

team met the following Monday, a group which involved staff "from Public Safety, Student Conduct, Resident Life, Housing, Counseling, and the Intercultural Center," McMahon said. Their task was to "review the severity of the incident, how the investigation is going, and what action needs to be taken immediately, both in terms of services to the person it happened to, but also within the community," she said.

Within the 2011 calendar year, there were 14 reported bias incidents, according to the Bias Response Team. Statistics from the Bias Response Team showing the date, location, nature, and manner of the bias

class where students sign up to talk about issues of race and the climate on campus," McMahon said. Other groups include Sustained Dialogue, SAFE, and Interfaith Council, according to McMahon.

"SAFE has many members that are allies that don't identify as LGBTQ. Within spiritual life, we have an Interfaith Council. So there are places all over that are inclusive of all people regarding those types of identities. The Intercultural Center is a place for all people," McMahon said.

While these clubs and organizations work to promote tolerance on campus, McMahon said "there's always room for growth ... there's a lot that needs to be done, and will need to be done for quite a while."

In response to this incident, for example, the Willow Resident Assistants (RAs) have met "to try to review [their] policies and review what [they] need to do to respond to this kind of stuff," said Griffin Labbanne, Head Resident Assistant of Willow, and regular writer for THE HAWKS HERALD.

In addition, "each RA is trying to do language general sensitivity programs in their units," Labbanne said, to make sure each unit has a "respectful living experience, rather than this negative one that happened."

According to Labbanne, the University wants students to report "if [they] feel offended or unsafe by anything written, said, slipped under [their] doors, or carved in [their] door."

Having spoken to the victim himself, Melaragno reflected on the incident.

"A comment she made was troubling to me," he said. "She said she hears things like this all the time on the campus."

Because the student withdrew from the University, Melaragno said, "we'll never know what she might have contributed to student life here."

A comment the student made was troubling to me. She said she hears things like this all the time on the campus.

— Steven Melaragno,
Director of Public Safety

incidents that have occurred in the past year confirm that racial bias is not the only type of bias on campus. In fact, only four of the reported incidents were of a racial nature. The rest were relating to sexual orientation, gender, religion, or other types of bias, and were either communicated verbally or in writing.

McMahon said she hopes to "send a message that we don't tolerate this kind of behavior, and it's not okay."

There are several groups on campus that strive to send this message to the community every day, not just when a hate crime has been committed. One such group is MRule, "a

Intermittent Internet baffles students, IT

ALISON ROCHFORD | Herald Reporter

Upon returning to campus in January, several residents of the South Campus dormitories experienced a shortage of wireless Internet for an extended period of time — up to a full day, according to some students. While some students were able to connect to the Internet with the use of an Ethernet cable, the lack of wireless connection caused some difficulty for those students who did not own one, or were simply unaware that they could access the ResNet network through the jacks in the wall.

"When the Internet was out for the first day or so when we got back, I couldn't look at my schedule," said Conner Hodney, a freshman Willow resident. It made it "hard to figure out where my classes were," Hodney said.

When asked about this temporary lack of Wi-Fi connectivity, Suzanne Barnes, Chief Information Officer, said she was unaware of the issue. Upon further investigation, Barnes said her office had no record of the outage.

"Something that may appear to be a network issue may actually be a number of things, including a laptop issue," Barnes said.

It is still unclear as to why so many students could not get access to the wireless Internet that day. Students say that full-day Internet outages are rare, but most are familiar with the sluggishness that comes at peak hours, especially at night.

"Netflix is the number one thing to take up network bandwidth, from about 10:30 at night to about 12:30 in the morning," Barnes said.

The complete outage of Wi-Fi is not a common phenomenon, but students and faculty alike have experienced difficulties with the wireless Internet on a regular basis.

"The Internet at RWU is proficient for everything I need," said Tony Sousa, a commuter student. He also said that he uses the wireless "much" less than non-commuters.

More frequent users of the wireless Internet, such as Professor Hume Johnson, said that the school "probably could look into improving the wireless options."

According to Barnes, the wireless routers are not always the cause for a slow Internet connection. "In some cases, some

folks don't know their laptops are running updates in the background, and that will slow things down," Barnes said.

Despite this regular increase in network activity, Barnes said that there is never a lack of bandwidth for the campus.

In order to supply wireless Internet throughout the campus, the University placed "access points up in the ceilings, and sometimes if one is starting to fail they might have an issue that way," Barnes said.

These access points do have limitations. When multiple computers try to log on to the same wireless Internet access point, the competition for wireless connectivity can end up leaving each computer with less bandwidth than they need.

However, based on monitoring of the campus's total bandwidth usage, Barnes said that there is more total campus Internet bandwidth on tap than is ever used by all campus Internet users at any given time, even during peak hours.

"Nothing is being maxed out. There's still room," Barnes said.

Barnes also spoke to some of the improvements that the IT department has already made in the past year. For example, she said they began "swapping out hardware to a technology called 802.11n," the new standard in wireless Internet technology.

They have also "increased bandwidth" and made improvements in every dormitory with the exception of Almeida, as "some of the improvements [we] can't make until this summer, because [we] actually need to cut into the walls," Barnes said.

"I find the Internet connectivity at Almeida to be less than impressive," said Sean Davis, a junior and an Almeida resident.

"When loaded with tons of work to do on the Internet, the connection either fails, takes minutes to load, or sometimes just quits out for the day."

Barnes said she and the rest of the IT department are open to communication regarding the quality of the wireless Internet. Barnes met with the Student Senate this past Monday to "basically deliver the same message" regarding these various changes.

Barnes said that people experiencing trouble should call the IT department for help.

"The IT department, she said, 'will go to where they are, and will run network tests and find out what the problem is.'"

THIEF: Students remain vigil

Continued from page A1

ing about how we need to be more respectful of people's stuff, [we] need to make sure you lock up your stuff, and [we] need to be aware of who's around you."

According to other architecture students, there were about two or three of these meetings held with faculty in the fall.

Many students said that with the amount of time they spend working in the studio and attending classes, they felt confident that they would notice a new face roaming the building, should Carpenter return.

The SAAHP did report several thefts last fall. "I think there were three or four," White said. According to both he and several students, the thefts occurred not only in the larger undergraduate areas, but also in the section of the building for graduate students.

"But it was not just limited

to this building," White said. He mentioned that some of the thefts also occurred in the Library.

However, since the posters have gone up in the SAAHP building, there have not been anymore reported thefts.

"I was actually thinking of taking [the posters] down soon because I think it's kind of passed," White said.


White said he believes that the posters really united the tight-knit architecture community and prepared everyone for the possibility of more thefts.

"Everybody was familiar with the situation and everybody had said so strongly, 'Let's all get together and solve this,'" White said.

"To me, it was one of the best collaborations in a situation that I recall."

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ROGER AFTER DARK

LATE NIGHT PROGRAMMING

There's a new sheriff in town

BEN WHITMORE | News Editor

After over three decades of service as a Providence Police Officer, Steven Melaragno joins the Roger Williams University Department of Public Safety as its new director, bringing with him extensive law enforcement and leadership experience.

Over the course of his career in the Providence Police Department, Melaragno served in many capacities, working street details as a lieutenant and fulfilling administrative duties as a major. Yet, in his last nine years with the department, Melaragno focused his energies on developing a "community police model," where officers worked with Providence residents to proactively deter crime.

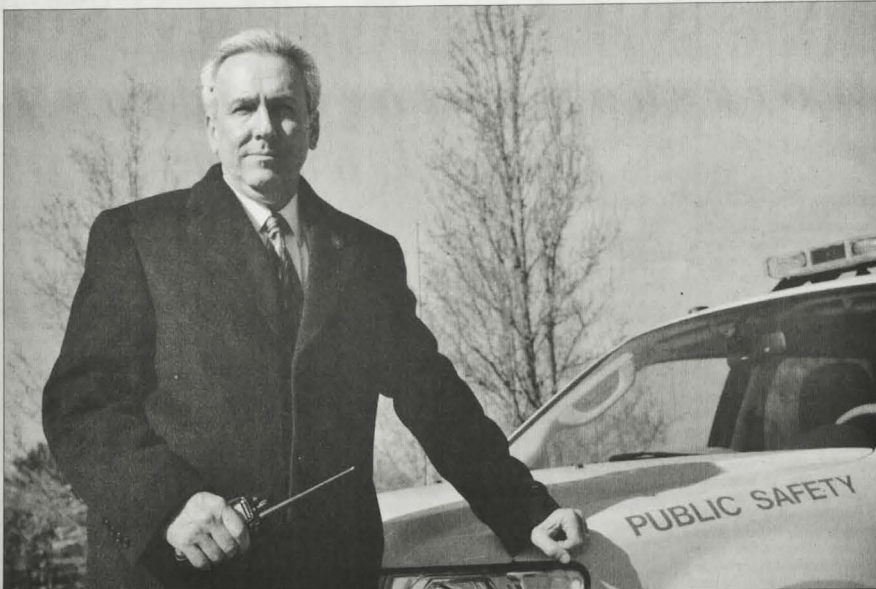
Though it may seem like transitioning from a metropolitan police department of 494 officers to RWU's 25-officer Public Safety department would be a jarring change, Melaragno said he feels his community police experience prepared him well to begin work on campus.

"I'm looking at [my work with community policing] as an asset here on the campus because one of the things I'd like to do with the department of Public Safety is raise the stature of the operation both in the eyes of the students, the faculty, and the public safety officers themselves," Melaragno said.

One area in which Melaragno said he would like to develop rapport between Public Safety and the campus is with the student drinking culture.

"We always do enforcement and underage alcohol consumption on the campus is certainly a problem, but it's something that I'm dealing with in a different way," Melaragno said.

Although he said he does want to "get a handle" on student binge drinking with familiar



ELLEN BURKE

Steven Melaragno brings 33 years of experience in the Providence Police Department to his new role as Director of Public Safety.

methods like confiscating alcohol from underage students, Melaragno said he would like to incorporate an education component in his department's efforts.

"What I'm going to try to do is to develop some strategies that will raise awareness of what alcohol can do to you, and from our end, work more on the preventative side," Melaragno said.

Yet, Melaragno said he was aware that often, alcohol education's effects are moderated by skepticism from students.

"You know, we're Public Safety, so what we say will probably

be very often be dismissed by the very people we're trying to reach," Melaragno said. "But if [students] hear the message repeated and endorsed by some of their peers, I think they'll be more likely to listen."

To this end, Melaragno said he is developing a program that would encourage peer-to-peer interaction. He described a yet-to-be-created "Red Jacket" program, in which students could potentially receive work study pay to don red vests, carry a walkie-talkie, and roam the campus on weekend nights, keeping a lookout for potential-

ly dangerous situations in which students could use prompt help.

"They would be an additional set of eyes and ears ... and just be on campus so that if someone were to get into trouble, there's someone nearby they could call for help," Melaragno said. "We can't put blue phones in every corner of the campus, but I think we could do a work study program and put some interested students out there that could help with the Public Safety mission."

Melaragno said he also recognizes the importance of improving relations between Public

Safety officers and the student population.

"I think it's important for the students to have some positive interactions with Public Safety, not just getting a ticket or having a six-pack of beer taken away from them, but have some positive interactions and kind of balance those activities off," Melaragno said.

"We're a full-service agency. We're here for you when you need us, and we'll be here when you probably wish we weren't, too."

SEMI: Class of 2013 pulls off a fine affair

Continued from page A1

Programs and Leadership and ICC's advisor, Thompson attributed the event's sound organization to the extensive planning.

The effort put into advertising by the junior class members of ICC was another reason there was such an increase in students this year. The leaders of the junior class attributed a lot of their success to the use of postcard reminders, online ticket sales, and the earlier date that the event took place.

The switch to online ticket purchasing contributed to the success. "We realized everyone pays with cards now," said Michael Decoulos, Treasurer of the Class of 2013. "When we did ticket sales in person for two days, we only sold like five tickets."

"In terms of on campus advertising, we didn't have to do that much," said Lauren Jost, President of the Class of 2013. "It sold out. People were buying their tickets pretty early."

Having the largest group ever attending the dance, ICC came prepared for any alcohol-related discord. "We had a full staff there, Student Programs and Leadership was there, we had hotel security, so everything was under control," Thompson said.

According to ICC, one ambulance transport was necessary during the course of the evening.

Although the Junior Semi is usually held later in the spring, this year's event was held much earlier, due to practical space concerns. "Because we wanted to increase people so much, we

had to go to larger venues, but we had to stay out of wedding season," Decoulos said.

Also, by having the event this early, Decoulos said that ICC was able to save a large amount of money.

Yet, due to the large number of guests, organizing an efficient way of getting the guests to Newport proved difficult. Although ICC enlisted the services of four school buses that shuttled students from campus to the event in two waves, some students were still left waiting on a ride for longer periods than they say they would have liked.

Attending students such as Bailey had a few complaints about this plan. "The first group worked pretty well, but I was on the second, and we had to wait like a good hour," she said.

According to Bailey, the second wave of buses did not arrive at their scheduled time, leaving nearly 200 well-dressed students waiting in the Rec. Center atrium.

"It's like Russian Roulette with the buses," Thompson said. It is very difficult to find enough buses to transport all of the students safely, he said. Thompson explained that these difficulties come from finding cheap-enough buses, and the timing of the wave situation.

In the end, all of the students made it to the hotel, even with the difficulties in transportation, and most students seemed to have a good time.

"It's nice to see your classmates there, and to see everyone have such a great time," Jost said. "I had a blast."



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Chief of Staff, Mary Rooney & Secretary, Allie Conn gave out free (Hershey) kisses for Valentine's Day

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LOCAL NEWS

Mentor center, theaters a vision for Walley School

Workshop gathers ideas for old school building

BRISTOL PHOENIX | Contributed Article

Hundreds of red, pink, yellow and blue notes clung to a wall in the unused auditorium of the former Reynolds school building last Wednesday. Each note held ideas and opinions from those at the community workshop that will define the vision and potentially create a community arts center in Bristol.

It was the second workshop in which town officials and the Roger Williams University Community Partnerships Center (CPC) solicited ideas from the community to help create an arts community in town, and possible uses of the Walley, Reynolds and Byfield school buildings. Seventy-five people attended the Feb. 1 workshop.

"This is the start of a larger dialogue," said Arnold Robinson, director of the CPC and

facilitator for the community workshop.

After breaking off into small groups to brainstorm, the results were brought back to the collective group, where the vision of an arts community was defined by what is already available, versus what is needed. After 2 and 1/2 hours, the top-voted ideas were the culmination of recognized voids, as well as desires, that would fit into the scope of the available space.

When the colored slips of paper adhered to the wall had been whittled down to the most-suggested ideas, the participants indicated their vision for an arts community.

Among the top prospects are: n A youth mentoring center, where deserving youth, including those from impoverished communities, can develop their

creative talents.

n Studio space for artists.

n A theater where independent film makers can gather an audience to view and discuss their craft.

n And small and large performance theaters/recital halls where local and touring companies can perform.

Other ideas, such as music rehearsal space and dance space, were also included among the top needs.

"This helps us enormously to decide what to do with Walley," said Mr. Robinson. "The next steps are pretty clear. There's a real interesting discussion to take place and actions to take place, based on what you care about."

In attendance was the director of the town's economic development center, Alan Cris-

man. While much of the discussion was directed to performing and visual arts, Mr. Crisman hoped to introduce the idea of vocational arts into the discussion. In his work, finding ways to draw new enterprises into Bristol and develop a workforce to support those industries, his observations compared modern day manufacturing to be more like playing video games than working on traditional factory assembly lines.

"Art can be a career path, especially if you include 'vocational.' We don't know how to do that yet," he said of the potential to develop a "creative economy."

Others in attendance recognized that the integration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics is changing the way schools develop educational curriculums. That

integration, known as STEM, could be further enhanced if arts were added into the curriculum, changing the acronym to STEAM, some suggested.

A third forum is being planned for March, said Mr. Robinson. "Over the course of the semester (at RWU), we'll take what we have here and how it fits into the Walley school," he said.

Through the CPC, students in the architectural and business schools at Roger Williams University will draft concepts in their disciplines of spatial design and business strategies that focus first on re-use of the Walley school building, the other buildings. That will provide the infrastructure for further discussion within the community to make the arts a viable industry for Bristol.

NATIONAL NEWS

SOPA, PIPA stopped: Internet users fight back

IAN KIEFFER | Herald Reporter

A few weeks ago, the Internet fought back. For 24 hours, some of the world's most popular websites - among them Wikipedia, Craigslist, and social news website Reddit - shut themselves down. Other sites, such as Google, blacked out their logos for the day, while 7 million people signed an online petition. This online protest was organized to combat two bills in Congress designed to crack down on internet piracy. The Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and the Protect Intellectual Property Act (PIPA) sought to create a "blacklist" of sites that allow Internet users to illegally download movies, music, and books for free. Furthermore,

these proposed acts would give Congress the power to shut down any site that disseminated copyrighted material. This, however, has a fundamental flaw. Many sites that contain this sort of material, such as YouTube, do not promote or consent to the uploading of bootlegged shows and videos. The resulting protests obtained Washington's attention, and in 48 hours, the two bills were taken off the floor. But, the problem still remains: How do you combat the theft of intellectual content in a manner that satisfies not just the copyright holder, but the website as well? Furthermore, how do you maintain the relative freedom that exists on the Internet?

Clearly there is a need for

more protection of intellectual content on the Internet, said David Pogue in NYTimes.com. Just because the technology to copy creative work and distribute it with no cost is now readily available, does not mean that it is proper, or, even legal. Yet at the same time many Internet users believe that it is their "natural right" to the "free fun" provided by the readily available free movies, music, and books. This same fun and freedom though is costing others their livelihood. Peter Lerangis in the New York Daily News noted that piracy is removing the idea that an artist can live off of their own creative work. However, it cannot be said that when someone pirates something they are willing to actu-

ally pay money for it, contends Matthew Yglesias in Slate.com. In fact, he argues, "a little copyright infringement" is good. It causes creators to come up with cheap and innovative solutions that people are actually willing to spend money on.

Obviously, "ending the Internet revolution" is not the answer, noted Gary Shapiro in FoxNews.com. Giant media companies spent millions of dollars in order to fabricate and lobby for legislation that could have ended the vast freedom that exists on the Internet. These very companies, he mentions, have controlled Congress for decades, persuading lawmakers to extend the length of copyright protection 14 times since the 1970s, and impos-

ing outlandish penalties for infringement. The American people have rebelled. Rebelled against corporate tyrants and rebelled in order to maintain the freedom allowed on the Internet.

Although SOPA and PIPA have, more or less, been put to rest, there still exists the need for legislation that would enable the sharing spirit of the web to continue to flourish, while, at the same time, protecting the rights of the talented, hard-working people who create the culture and entertainment that so many enjoy. There is, thus, a delicate balance between the stringency of legislation and the freedom of the people that must be maintained.

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NEWSPAPERS

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP?

We're social media enthusiasts, not addicts

LYNDESEY BURNS | Opinions Manager

What do your Marlboro Reds, 30 pack of Bud Light, and Facebook all have in common? Addiction. According to the University of Chicago Business School, the social media sites that we've grown to love are as addicting as tobacco and alcohol. Now, the media is doing what they do best: taking the story and running with it. However, I must admit, I don't buy into this one; there is no addictive power that Facebook holds over us. Like our Nintendo- and Playstation-filled childhoods, I think that Facebook and Twitter are phases that we live through, phases that will eventually fade.

Credible news sources such as ABC 40, Fox News, and The Guardian picked up the story of the University of Chicago's findings. According to Fox News, the research consisted of 205 people in Germany, and they participated in a week-long poll where they were asked seven times per day via BlackBerry if they had the desire to check a social media within the last 30 minutes. Out of 10,558 responses, 7,727 reported moments of social media desire.

Even though the facts reported by Fox News show that people gravitate towards their social media sites at an alarming rate, I cannot say that I am surprised. I have difficulty believing that

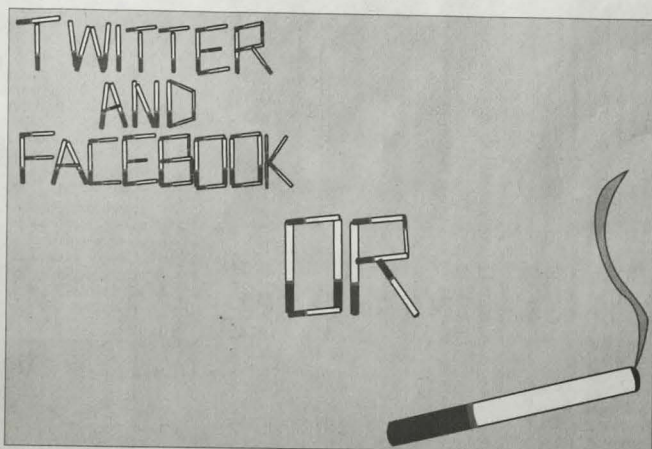


ILLUSTRATION SAM EDSON

social media use is a true addiction, though. Let's look at the word "addiction," according to the Merriam-Webster dictionary: Addiction: compulsive need for and use of a habit-forming substance. I would consider Facebook and Twitter to be networks people check by habit, but not compulsively. Tobacco and alcohol are addictions created by a chemical reaction in your body; Facebook and Twitter are hardly the same. It's no secret that our genera-

tion is inundated with technology. We live in this text-message, wall post, tweet-at-me cyber reality that we truly cannot escape. If anything, we go on our social networking sites to stay connected, and up-to-date with our social lives, not because it's some addiction we cannot resist. Unfortunately, our cellphones do not help our case at all. Having all of our social networking giving us immediate notifications on our cellphones every time a friend messages, posts,

pokes, or tweets at us makes it so easy to constantly check on our cyber social life.

What really gets me is the media blow up about it. The media loves information like this; anything that makes an interesting story that will grab people's attention will be heard from reporters' mouths on almost every news station. I first noticed this phenomenon in 2005, when the Avian (bird) flu was sweeping the nation just in time for Thanksgiving. Did I still enjoy

turkey on Thanksgiving Day? Yes. Similarly, the media will never let me forget the story behind those water bottles seen in the side pocket of so many people's North Face backpacks. 2008 marked the year that Nalgene bottles were deemed to possibly cause cancer, and the media scared the world about it. While both stories were serious health concerns, they caused moments of chaos and raised concern by the media. Facebook and Twitter becoming an addiction as serious as nicotine and alcohol seems to be yet another case of this same phenomenon, and I'm simply refusing to buy it.

Call me naive, say I'm in denial, but I truly don't believe that social media will ever be a true addiction, especially not one that is as serious as cigarettes and alcohol. So, continue checking your Facebook whenever you're around a computer. Continue texting absolute nonsense to your friends. Continue jumping on Twitter to see if the shocking news you just heard is true. Continue "mup-loading" that hilarious thing your friend did Saturday night. While we're not sure of the long-term effects our social media-crazed society will have on us, I have a feeling they will not be similar to the effects of long term nicotine and alcohol use.

RWU Photo Club's weekly photo contest



Each week, the RWU Photo Club assigns a topic to photograph, collects student submissions, then votes on the best one. The winner gets printed in THE HAWKS' HERALD!

There was no contest last week due to Valentine's day.

This week's image is courtesy of club president, Jeff Los, after a recent club photo project.

Come join Photo Club!
Meetings held: Tuesdays at 9 p.m. in GHH-G05

THE HAWKS' HERALD

The student newspaper of Roger Williams University

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The Hawks' Herald is dedicated to providing news to the university in a fair and accurate manner.

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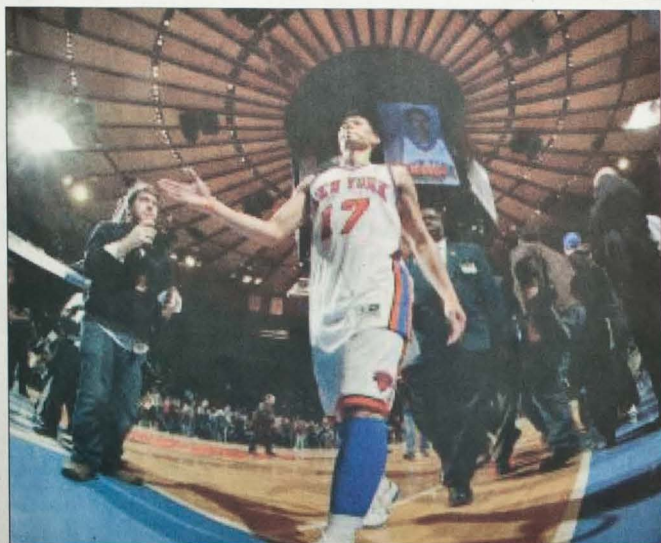
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GETTY IMAGES

NBA sensation Jeremy Lin walks off the court after another stunning Knicks victory.

Linsanity steals the show on 7th Ave

JOSH WEINREB | Sports Editor

They're calling it Linsanity, Linccredible, a Linspiration, a Linderella story, and most notably: Linsanity.

A six-game winning streak has rewarded the Knicks with their best stretch of the season. They were without superstars Carmelo Anthony and Amar'e Stoudemire, and are now one of the hottest teams in the NBA. Leading the charge is the relatively unknown Jeremy Lin, the Harvard graduate who came out of nowhere to bring this demoralized franchise back to the hearts and minds of every basketball fan -- and their next door neighbor.

His name is everywhere. His jersey is the number-one selling jersey on NBA.com since Jan. 24, rolling off the shelves faster than names like Kevin Durant, Derrick Rose, and Kobe Bryant. His name has become a Twitter sensation, and his team, anticipated before the season to be one of the best teams in the Eastern Conference, has once again become relevant.

Flash-forward to Tuesday night, when the Knicks went north of the border to face the Toronto Raptors. Jeremy Lin takes the ball and hits a three-

point jumper to put the Knicks up three points with 0.5 seconds to go in the fourth quarter. In Stoudemire's first game back from mourning the death of his brother, the Knicks would go on to win by Lin's three points, 90-87.

Linsanity. Yeah, that sounds about right.

"You don't see many guys play like that in their whole career, let alone these past three or four games," Knicks head coach Mike D'Antoni said, as quoted by the New York Post, after a 92-85 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers, in which Lin had a career-high 38 points and seven assists. "Some of the stuff he's doing is just amazing."

The Knicks' new star is almost single-handedly turning this team around. All of a sudden, the Knicks can score points, Tyson Chandler is starting to look like the player that the Knicks expected him to be when they acquired him, and D'Antoni, who was almost out of a job two weeks ago, now appears to be a lot more comfortable in the coach's chair.

But what's more amazing is the fact that Jeremy Lin, who was placed on waivers by the Houston Rockets on Dec. 12, has accomplished so much in such a

short amount of time. He was destined for the D-League, but now he's a superstar, living the dream on the country's biggest stage, following a script seemingly destined for the directors in Hollywood.

In just his first six games, Jeremy Lin already became a household name. He has scored 130 points in his first five starts for New York, passing Shaquille O'Neil for the most points scored so quickly since the American Basketball Association and the NBA merger in 1976.

But it's not about the points he's getting. Sure, he has led the team to six straight wins, but Jeremy Lin has become so much more than wins and losses. He's become a sensation, a phenomenon, an inspiration, and, most notably, a heartfelt story that could only be dramatized on Broadway, beneath the heavy magnifying glass that is New York City, under which all New York athletes operate.

It doesn't matter if you're a basketball fan, or even a New York Knicks fan; it's becoming very hard not to root for Jeremy Lin. Great story, great player, and that 3-pointer to win the game with 0.5 seconds left was just, well, Linsane.

Profile of a Hawk: Adam Stanley takes it one wave at a time

JOLYN WIGGIN | Herald Reporter

A tall, pale, slender figure stares longingly at the motionless water below him. He is in the zone, thinking about perfecting his dive. He leaps into a graceful arc and ends in the water without a splash. He hears buzzing in the background and the crowd cheering his name.

Adam Stanley, 19, is a sophomore at Roger Williams University and is a member of the swimming and diving team. He is from Litchfield, Conn., and is majoring in engineering.

Stanley has spent most of the past seven years in and around the pool. It's become Stanley's biggest passion in life. He eats, sleeps and breathes diving.

Seven years ago, Stanley decided to start diving after watching his older sister, Michaela, 22, in high school. He decided to try diving, and ended up falling in love with the sport. It is a bond that the two have had, even though she stopped diving. "She was a much better diver than me in high school, but the tables have turned and I have grown so much since I've been here [RWU]," Stanley said.

This past weekend, all of the RWU divers qualified for the New England swimming and diving intercollegiate competition that was held at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. This competition was the culmination of the team's training for this entire year.

In order to qualify for the

intercollegiate competition, Stanley had to score at least 170 points with a dive difficulty of 11.2. The divers are evaluated by three judges who score each contestant on a scale of 0-10 for each dive. That score is then multiplied by the difficulty rating of each particular dive. The total of six different dives is the diver's final score.

Roger Williams was also represented by divers Laura Folsom, Brittany Bouffard, Kristie Kordana and Andrew Rumore. Roger Williams competed and placed in the 1m and 3m dive. On the men's side, Stanley received sixth place in the 1m dive and Rumore placed second. On the 3m dives, Stanley placed

fifth and Rumore placed second. On the women's side, Folsom placed fifth in the 3m and sixth in the 1m. In the 1m, Bouffard finished tenth and Kordana finished eleventh.

"He is an interesting character, lively, and energetic," Stanley said about his head coach, Chuck LoCurto. The new coach of the diving team has made a great impact on his divers. He pushes his divers to get them to reach their

full potential. LoCurto graduated from Clarion University of Pennsylvania with a BSSBA. He was a springboard diver and four-time NCAA Division II All-American and NCAA Division I Qualifier. When he is not coaching at RWU and working at Tectron Financial, he spends time with his wife, Rhonda, and his two children.



LAUREN MARCHISE

Diver Adam Stanley focuses himself before his championship dive at UMASS Dartmouth.



RWUHAWS.COM

Junior Elizabeth Kilzi goes for the jumper against Wentworth Institute of Technology Saturday.

Play for Kay: Girls Basketball defeats WIT

RWUHAWS.COM | Contributed Article

On the Roger Williams University Women's Basketball team's Play 4Kay Day, the Hawks earned a convincing 74-51 win over Wentworth Institute of Technology Saturday afternoon.

The Hawks came out decked with pink warm-up shirts and pink socks to help raise awareness for breast cancer. Throughout the day, donations were collected from fans in attendance for the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. In all, the team raised \$775 for the charity.

"We're really grateful to everybody who donated for such as great cause," said Head Coach Kelly Thompson. "For us to raise such an amount for an event on a national level is awesome."

The win for RWU puts the

Hawks at 10-6 in the Commonwealth Coast Conference (13-11 overall) and clinches at least the #5 seed in the upcoming CCC Tournament. Wentworth drops its eighth straight contest and falls to 1-22 overall and 1-15 in the CCC.

Ashley Conway (Danvers, Mass.) gave Wentworth an early three-point lead with a trey before a three-point play by Alexandria Lanieri (Port Jefferson, N.Y.) tied the game. That would spark a 13-0 Hawk run over the next five minutes as RWU built a ten-point lead.

Wentworth remained within striking distance, pulling to within four (11-15) at one point on a pair of free throws by Anne Harris (Germantown, Md.). The Leopards would later close the gap on a 14-point deficit to go into the intermission

trailing by a 25-33 margin.

The Leopards stayed within single digits for most of the opening part of the second half. Yet six straight points by the Hawks turned an eight-point game into a 50-36 lead for Roger Williams with 12:17 left. The Hawks would not let their lead drop below double digits from that point en route to the 23-point win.

Lanieri finished with a game-high 23 points and 13 rebounds, while Kaitlyn Bovee (Berlin, Conn.) added six points and 12 rebounds. Elizabeth Kilzi (Waverly, Pa.) finished with 11 points and three assists in her first start of the season and only her second game of the year.

Roger Williams will travel to Western New England while Wentworth will be at Gordon, with both games on Tuesday.

RWU Wrestling rebounds after facing D-1 Brown University

TOM JACKSON | Herald Reporter

Last Friday, the Roger Williams University Wrestling team faced one of its toughest challenges yet this season and perhaps in school history, as it competed against Division-I Brown University. The match marks the first time in school history that the wrestling team has opposed a D-I squad. It is rare for Roger Williams' athletics to face Division-I teams, as the university primarily competes in Division-III athletics.

Although the Hawks came away with a 41 to 9 loss, it is still great experience to face a Division-I opponent. "To be coaching against D-I teams is quite humbling," said Coach Jon Egan. "... as much as it is a learning experience for the wrestlers, it is the same for me as a coach."

When asked what this opportunity provides for the team, Egan said, "We talk to the team a lot about raising the bar and wrestling like D-I wrestlers. Not only can these guys see what the

next level of wrestling is, but they can experience it on the mat."

Prior to Friday's matchup against the Bears, the Hawks were 11-4 with five consecutive wins, and are ranked fourth in New England. Robert Markowski was one of two Roger Williams wrestlers to come away with a victory, as he won 6 to 4 over Brown's Dave Foxen.

The Hawks bounced back, however, when they defeated Western New England in a 31-14 win Saturday afternoon in their final dual meet of the season. Sophomore Colin Crowell continued his streak with his 17th straight win over Western New England's Tommy Galiente. Shane Parcel and Philip Ernst each picked up wins as well at 184 and 197, and Kyle D'Urso picked up his sixth win of the season.

With the win, the Hawks improve to 12-3 on the season, and will compete in the New England Champions at Springfield College on Feb. 25.

The Sweetest Thing



Due to tales of Greek Mythology, Cupid is often associated with Valentine's Day because of his mischievous behavior. He would often shoot humans with arrows causing them to fall in love. Cupid is the son of Venus, who is the Goddess of love.

After banning engagements and marriages due to lack of voluntary participation in the military, Christian priest Valentine was sentenced to prison for defending love.

He died Feb. 14, 270 A.D.

Valentine's Day first became associated as a romantic holiday in the 14th century due to a poem written in 1381 by Geoffrey Chaucer titled "The Parliament of Fowls."

Mass-produced "valentine writers" contained pre-written love messages in the forms of pamphlets. These were sold for no more than a dime.

Feb. 14, 1929
Valentine's Day Massacre, Prohibition Era: Five gang members (North Side Gang, Chicago) were executed by Al Capone's gang. The massacre was a long-time plan of Capone and his men after a deadly assault by the North Side Gang leader, Bugs Moran. Moran was not killed, however, during the massacre.

In 2010, Hollywood added their own spin to the commercialized holiday with the movie VALENTINE'S DAY.



See B2 for story



Taunting rivals

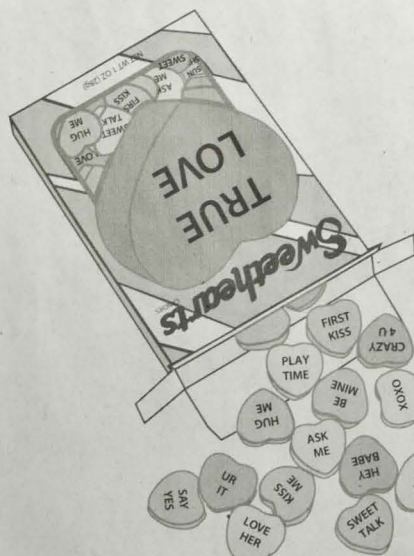
Why can't we just get along? Freshman columnist watches Superbowl among rivals for the first time.

PAGE B4

INDEX

Tuxedos and gowns, downtown.....B2	Haters need to open eyes.....B4
Second-year senior.....B3	Political head-to-head.....B5
Smoke into thin air?.....B3	Puzzles.....B6

A look at love history: From cupid to cards



KATLYN PROCTOR | Features Editor

KINSEY JANKE | Herald Reporter

In today's society, Valentine's Day is viewed as more than just a holiday known for its quirky romantic gestures. Rather, it's seen as a full-blown commercial industry. In fact, Valentine's Day generates roughly 14 billion dollars a year. Regardless of the frivolities surrounding the holiday, the underlying message is clear: Valentine's Day is the only day of the year where emphasis is placed on the connection between lovers or the possible spark between two strangers. It is a day to celebrate the mere acts of adoration and appreciation. It is a day to say "I love you."

However, before store windows were filled with extravagant bouquets and expensive silver jewelry, the popular connotations

associated with Valentine's Day, as we know it today, ceased to exist. Before Hallmark, Hershey's and national florists could put human desire into a tangible object, couples were left to use pure imagination and creativity to cause the four chambers of their lovers' heart fill up with love.

Lyrical ghost writers

Before the official establishment of Valentine's Day as a holiday, members of society were forced to turn to other resources to help demonstrate their love. In the early 19th century, while printers learned to master the mass production process, a group of people began to empathize with the romantically challenged. This group published what soon became known as "valentine writers," mass-produced pamphlets containing pre-written love messages. These pamphlets were sold for less than a dime's worth and would be transcribed into a personal note for a loved one.

These new "valentine writers" became popular as society began to catch on to the latest love trend. Shortly thereafter, as printing technology began to expand, the idea of the "valentine writer" morphed into a new fad: the greeting card. One female, and her lavish card designs, stood out amongst the ever-growing market of lovey-dovey products.

Esther Howland, known as the Mother of the American Valentine, started her own greeting card business in Worcester, Mass. after her father sent her a valentine in 1847.

Despite the fineries surrounding Valentine's Day, it's not a day for everyone. Many describe it as simply another holiday, or have aptly renamed it "Single's Awareness Day." As a snuff toward Valentine's Day, there has been a universal movement against the romantic holiday. Quite frequently, there are "hate parties," which intend to drown out the often smothering tones that are associated with the month of February.

While many campus couples

were out to dinner on the 14th, some students were playing games in Stonewall at the "I Hate Valentine's Day Party," hosted by the Resident Assistants of the building.

Regardless of the singles' movement, the day can be just as hard for a happy couple as it is for those without anyone to spend it with.

Latitudinal loving

Roger Williams University junior Perry Cyr is one of those people. Almost a year into his relationship with RWU alum Caitie Abrahamson, Cyr's V-Day wasn't as ideal as most people with a steady partner.

Oklahoma State University (OSU), where Abrahamson is currently enrolled as a graduate student, is 1,635 miles from Roger Williams University. Not a distance that can easily be traveled by bus, car, RIPTA, or train, but a distance that Cyr has forged nonetheless. Cyr has been to Oklahoma to visit twice; once after a road trip from Connecticut to the OSU campus, and the second time this past Columbus Day weekend.

The distance isn't easy, especially after a full semester together, but Cyr says that life goes on.

"When we decided that we were going to keep going after she went to Oklahoma, it ended up just starting to make sense," Cyr said. "It was hard — it still is, there's no way around it — but it gets easier as you keep doing it only because it becomes what you're used to. It becomes the norm, [and] you don't know any different."

The couple hasn't seen each other since January, but Cyr is leaving Rhode Island to spend Presidents' Day weekend in Oklahoma with Abrahamson. Though Valentine's Day has come and passed, Cyr plans to watch Abrahamson's performance in OSU's production of *The Vagina Monologues*, and just spend time together, trying to make every moment count.

"It [does] get easier, especially if that person means that much to you," Cyr said. "It's worth it, and that's how I see it."



ILLUSTRATION SAM EDSON

A friendly dress shop A place where customers become friends



ELLEN BURKE

Carmela and Albert Vieira run the downtown Bristol dress shop, Vieira's Bridal & Fashions. The couple has been involved in the fashion industry for 30 years.

NICHOLLE BUCKLEY | Herald Reporter

With Commencement Ball just shy of three months away, the women of the senior class have a list of things to do, but the most important is buying a dress. The dress they wear to this dance will be symbolic of their graduation from college and their induction into the real world. Considering most college students are broke, especially people 21 and older, a regal, elegant gown may be out of the question. Luckily, Vieira's Bridal & Fashions shop in Bristol offers a wide selection of dresses at discounted prices.

"We love when Roger Williams students come in. Both of my daughters graduated from the school," said owner Carmela Vieira, who runs the five-year-old shop with her husband, Albert. The Vieiras have been involved in the fashion business for over 30 years. They opened their first business in Avon, Conn. in 1973. Besides selling bridal gowns, prom dresses,

and cocktail dresses, shoes and handbags, Vieira's offers alterations, tailoring, and tuxedo rentals.

"We have a wide range of sizes and prices. We've had a lot of girls from the school come in that can't afford the dress they want, so we negotiate to make it possible," Vieira said. The Vieiras are very proud of their shop that, over the years, has compiled dresses from a variety of designers around the world. "We want our customers to become our friends. We want our friends to look beautiful on their special day."

We want our customers to become our friends. We want our friends to look beautiful on their special day.

The Vieiras are willing to accommodate to their "friends" price limit. "I remember how beautiful my daughters looked at their semi-formals and the senior Commencement Ball, so I wouldn't want to take that opportunity away from any girl who couldn't afford the dress they want," Vieira said. "Send friends to our shop and we'll work something out."

Smokeless campus: the e-cigarette

THOMAS ASCIOLA | Herald Reporter

Going out for a smoke is, for some people, as automatic as getting up in the morning. Though usage has begun to die down, cigarettes are still very much a part of society today. With cigarette costs increasing all the time, some people are beginning to get worried about how buying one will impact their finances. Adding in the health risks involved with smoking, the practice seems to

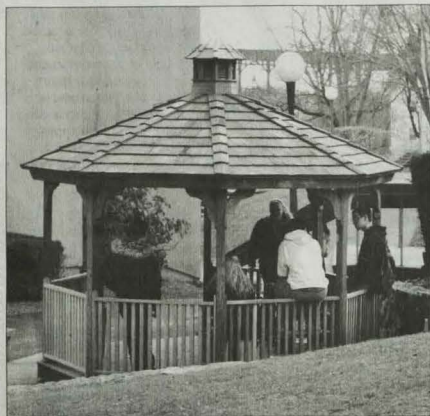
addiction."

As its name suggests, the e-cigarette is an electronic alternative to smoking touted to be far healthier. It is an interesting device with roots dating to 1963, though an actual design hadn't been devised until 2003. The average unit consists of a cartridge of liquid nicotine, an atomizer used to vaporize said liquid, and a power supply, such as a battery, although their appearances can range from something similar to a regular cigarette to

no smoke, others are affected far less by their use. Still, several countries, including Singapore, Brazil, Lebanon, and Finland, have banned them. Strangely, many laws consider them to be tobacco products, even though they were invented partly as an alternative thereto.

All safety concerns aside, the e-cigarette is becoming a far more affordable alternative to actual smoking. Though still more expensive than a patch or Nicorette gum, they provide something that other cessation methods cannot: they simulate smoking a cigarette almost perfectly. This creates a basic placebo effect, particularly with non-nicotine models, which often proves to be a more effective method of quitting. Most e-cigarettes are rechargeable, but many disposable models have begun to spring up as well, which are still designed to last as long as an entire pack of "real" cigarettes. They are also sold in several specially flavored varieties, including mint, chocolate, and several fruits. While many still consider e-cigs a novelty, they are increasing in popularity every day.

What, however, does Roger Williams University have to say about them? According to Scott Yonan, Assistant to Vice President of Student Affairs, there isn't actually a policy in place yet. However, they are currently under review, and the school neither encourages nor discourages their use at this time. Of course, students interested in using them would still have to abide by RWU's general smoking policies, such as using the smoking gazebos and being of legal age.



RACHEL DIEP

Students gather in the "buthuts" to smoke a cigarette before class. How the e-cigarette will affect campus is undetermined.

be surviving only because of the thriving tobacco industry. While many alternatives and cessation devices have been posed, only a few distinct categories have gained enough popularity to stay afloat. Enter the e-cigarette, a relatively new contender in the "battle against

a pipe or even a pen. Released internationally in 2005, and receiving an international patent in 2007, e-cigarettes have been met with a large amount of criticism. While the health risks posed by e-cigarettes are currently unknown, they are entirely first-hand — as these is



MARK FUSCO

Kara DeAngelis, sophomore, is graduating in May due to the large amount of college credits she accumulated in high school.

Second-year senior: academic dedication

GRIFFIN LABBANCE | Herald Reporter

First-year students commonly arrive at Roger Williams University with a few credits that have carried over from their high school course load, credits that may allow them to lighten their course load for a semester. However, one second-year student arrived at RWU last year with more credits than most students have by the end of their sophomore year.

Kara DeAngelis, a current sophomore, or senior as some see it, is planning to graduate from RWU this May after spending only two years at the university. DeAngelis began her education right here in the small state of Rhode Island by attending North Providence High School. "At the high school, they offered EEP classes, which are early enrollment program classes that are through local colleges," DeAngelis said. These EEP classes provide college credit for a small fee of \$50 per credit taken. In order to be eligible for the credit, a grade of a B+ or higher must be obtained. "I wanted to take as many classes in high school that would count for college credit as I could," DeAngelis said. She enrolled in physics, chemistry, english writing, humanities, and political science, all counting for college-level credit. This left only one class at North Providence High School under the EEP program that she had not taken.

During her third year in high school, DeAngelis was accepted into a pilot program through Providence College, a program that monitored college preparation. She enrolled in two classes, each worth three credits. As most high school seniors approach graduation, it is expected that they have accomplished something over the four years spent in classes. For DeAngelis, she had done a little more than one would expect. Graduating high school with 43 college credits caused the RWU admissions offices to have to stop and think about her placement. "When I came into school last year, they didn't really know whether to consider me a freshman, junior, or transfer," DeAngelis said. She said that with the help of a good advisor, she was able to figure out her two-year plan for the school. Originally, though, her plan was to stay for three years and graduate a year early. Currently a second-year

student majoring in english literature, DeAngelis' academic workload did nothing close to slow down. Taking the average course load of five classes per semester her first year, she found that she was able to increase the workload going into her second year. Last semester, she was enrolled in seven full-time courses on campus, and currently is enrolled in six. "My day usually runs from about 7 a.m. to 1 a.m., and about 70 percent of that time is used for doing work or attending classes," DeAngelis said of her academic schedule.

Some may see DeAngelis' success as an academic gift, but she describes it as six years of dedicated work. "The workload throughout it all has been the toughest part, although it hasn't always been hard. It increases greatly when papers and homework start to get assigned, especially for seven different classes," DeAngelis said. "I am so excited that I am graduating early. I feel accomplished because I have worked and pushed so hard to get to where I am."

DeAngelis said that her best friend has been very supportive and will be graduating a year early next year. "Everyone has been so supportive of everything I have tried, especially my father, who helped me not get lost in the college system, and really helped me to get to where I am now," DeAngelis said.

While DeAngelis will be able to enjoy her commencement this coming spring, she knows that she'll still have two summer classes to finish in the following months. "My dream is to become a professor of English at the college level, so I am applying to graduate schools in the fall," DeAngelis said. She understands that although it may be the ending to a short college career, she still has a long way to go. Even through all of the academic requirements, DeAngelis still manages to find time to relax and have fun. She concluded by joking and commenting on a unique experience that was offered to her. "Because I never really had a junior year, the school allowed me to attend the Junior Semi-Formal this year, and also because I am graduating, I am allowed to attend Commencement Ball in May," DeAngelis laughed. Not many RWU sophomores can say that.

Whose Constitution is it, anyway?



Roger Williams University School of Law Presents:

"Whose Constitution?
Popular Constitutionalism and the 2012 Election"

Friday, February 24, 2012

Registration 8:30 a.m.

Conference 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Roger Williams University School of Law
Bristol, Rhode Island

No cost to attend, but advanced registration is required.

Claimed by the Tea Party, the Occupy movement, and the legal establishment alike, the U.S. Constitution will stand at the center of the 2012 elections in a way it rarely has before.

Join top constitutional experts from both ends of the political spectrum — including Jack Balkin (Yale), Mark Tushnet (Harvard), Steven Calabresi (Brown, Northwestern) and Ilya Somin (George Mason) — for a lively debate of the phenomenon and its implications for the nation's future.

Framing the conversation will be a special address from U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

For further information
and to register:

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Email: lawevents@rwu.edu

Web: <http://law.rwu.edu/event/whoseconstitution>



Freshman Experience: On campus for the Super Bowl

KAITLYN FERACO | Herald Reporter

Our campus was crazy the night of the Super Bowl. Lucky for us (or perhaps not so lucky), our campus is conveniently located near the hometowns of both National Football League teams who played in Super Bowl XLVI, meaning there was major controversy between students.

As a fan of the New England Patriots, I can honestly say that this was my first time watching the Super Bowl with people who weren't all Patriots fans too. If you live in New England, you're a Patriots fan. That's how it works, and there are very few exceptions. At least that's what I've been told my whole life by the biggest, die-hard Pats fan I know: my father.

I can honestly say that this was my first time watching the Super Bowl with people who weren't all Patriots fans.

It was fun poking fun at each other. Granted, some people took the taunting a bit too far, but regardless, it was fun to be with a big group of friends, having a good time, supporting your home team, and enjoying each other's company. But for Patriots fans, the loss was not taken lightly. I'm fairly positive the butt huts were full of a lot of unhappy Patriots fans shortly after the last buzzer.

Thankfully, there were very few hard feelings towards each other at the end of the game within my group of friends. However, there were certainly a few angry people on South Campus. On my way home from my friend's room where I watched the game, a few Bristol police cars and at least one ambulance passed me. During the walk back, I remember some-

one told me they thought there was a fight going on at the end of the game and I remember immediately thinking, "Wow, some people get way too into professional sports."

In the midst of all the chaos from the game, I noticed something. Some of my best friends that I was watching the game with weren't cheering for the same team I was. I thought that was an interesting thing to think about because when you're around your friends and just hanging out, you forget that you all come from different places. We're all together when we're at school, but for breaks, we all go home to completely different environments; not everyone was raised the same way you were, with the same ideas and the same likes and dislikes. We're diverse, and

we seem to forget that a lot of the time.

I enjoyed seeing some of my friends' enthusiasm about the Giants because even though they don't like the same team I do, I could see on their faces that they had the same love for their team as I have for mine. We were both proud of where we came from, and even though we're so different, we respect where everyone comes from.

Overall, I still believe the Super Bowl was a major success, even though the result was not what I had hoped for. It was successful because I learned something from the experience that I was not expecting: acceptance can feel wonderful, even in the smallest of forms.

CAFFEINATED CYNICISM: College tendencies don't fly in the real world



SHANNON PITT | Herald Contributor

As I sit sipping my latte atop the opaque grey lounge chair that resides in the far corner of my room, I can't help but chuckle as I see a debatably hungover student trudge along the sidewalk outside of my window. Donning baggy sweatpants and a black zip-up North Face, she is clutching a pair of scuffed high heels that are about the same color as the mascara smudged down her cheek. Alas, it is Friday morning and the walk-of-shame parade has begun.

Have you ever found yourself looking around campus and wondering: "What on earth is s/he doing?" The odds are rather good that you have. Whether you're wondering why a girl is sporting \$140 Uggs in the pouring rain, why the freshman in all CORE classes is complaining about that "ridiculously difficult two-page paper," or why somebody is chasing the campus cats around the MINS lawn, it is undeniable that some people, myself included, on our campus do truly stupid things, and that they are judged for it. Today, dear readers, I would like to take some time to acknowledge these idiotic idiosyncrasies of our campus and discuss why these actions just won't fly once you leave the meticulously groomed gardens of the Roger Williams Campus.

Now, at no point during this rant do I intend to imply my exclusion from these acts. I, of all people, have partaken in some, if not all, of these rather stupid actions. However, it is my fervent hope that by bringing these actions to light, maybe they will change. And if they don't, here's to continuing the daily judgment of those who we deem inferior.

Let's begin with the classroom. No matter what your

major is, it is outstandingly rude to text during class. It is equally disrespectful to spend the class surfing Facebook, online shopping, or playing Words with Friends. Have you ever stopped for a moment to consider that your teacher spends class time putting in diligent effort to see that your education is improved through obtaining whatever material is being taught? Have you ever considered that you, or your parents, are spending roughly \$29,000/year on tuition for these classes that you pointedly ignore? If you have no intention of learning the material, let me ask you this: why are you here? Anyone who has worked a full-time job is likely to tell you that texting, Facebooking, or ignoring your boss during a meeting will get you in severe trouble, if not fired.

I would like to take some time to acknowledge these idiotic idiosyncrasies of our campus

(Note: I imagine this may not be the case if you work for Facebook. This observation is purely speculative.)

But, sometimes, dear readers, I imagine that doing something brainless is unintentional. Let us, for a brief moment, examine the architecture studio. Home to some of the brightest minds at our school (Note: This isn't speculative. The School of Art, Architecture, and Historic Preservation has the highest incoming GPA of accepted students), the studio is also home to some of the most ridiculous acts I've ever witnessed. When you combine sharp objects, lots of technology, and sleep-deprived students, the odds of disaster are considerably raised; any archie who has accidentally cut his/her finger with an Xacto or Ulta blade will likely agree. They might also argue that those hot-glue-gun burns and Xacto scars are simply unavoidable. Moving forward, I would

have to say that the creme-de-la-creme of half-baked acts I've ever witnessed was making a blowdart out of chipboard and pushpins. In the fall of 2009, a kid attempted this feat and accidentally inhaled a tack. I'm sorry, but can you please explain why creating a makeshift blowdart in the early hours of the morning seemed like a fantastic idea? Two surgeries and a whole lot of ridicule later, I'd bet he would agree that this was not his brightest moment. Just keep in mind that many years from now when you're working at a prestigious architecture firm (this is assuming our economy fixes itself and the field of architecture is no longer referred to as "most likely to be unemployed"), your boss won't be happy if you get blood on a final model or if you miss a deadline because you're undergoing tack-removal surgery.

Before we part, dear readers, there is one last feat of foolhardiness that I would like to address. For the sake of my dear friends who happen to be Bayside RAs, I'd like to address the stupid, idiotic, mindless things that they witness on weekend nights. When they see people wearing high heels and short skirts while carrying a surprisingly large purse that is jingling with the sound of clinking cans, please do not fool yourself. The RAs know that 1) you are going to a party, and 2) you are drinking. If you're traveling in a large mass of people down the path behind GHH to Bayside, the RAs know that 1) you're an underclassman, and 2) you're probably not supposed to be here. If you find yourself wandering from door-to-door trying to find a party, keep in mind that 1) most strangers won't let you into their apartment, and 2) if they are letting you in, you might want to be concerned. Please stop insulting the intelligence of the RAs that work to provide a safe living environment and start being a bit more respectful. When you leave college and are living "in the real world," keep in mind that wearing promiscuous outfits and wandering into the homes of strangers probably won't end well. To be honest, that sounds like the start of a bad plot for NCIS.

The ongoing struggle with off-campus entertainment

EVAN VIOLA | Herald Reporter

The weekend has come to be a sort of paradise for me lately: going to New York to see my family, going up to Boston to visit friends, and simply spending the time not stressing over things like schoolwork, graduating, the "real world," or anything else.

But when I spend the weekend in Bristol, I feel there are not many options to weigh in terms of entertainment. And when I speak in terms of entertainment, I mean where people want to be, as I've found it almost instinctual for me to expect a good time where there's a crowd.

Being part of the student body that lives off-campus, I find that many people are in the same few places each week. There's Gillary's Tavern and Aidan's Pub, adjacent to each other on Thames Street, and Judge Roy Bean Saloon on the corner of Thames and State. Those bars alone seem to take care of Thursday for many underclassmen, and maybe even Friday and Saturday night, as well.

There are plenty of things to do on campus, like events put on by CEN, MSU, ICC, and other organizations, but still, going to these bars is like clockwork. Spending about nine hours a week in the Design Center at SP&L gives me a chance to see most of the events that are happening, but when I spoke about this issue

to a friend who is "involved" on campus, the response was a stare at first and then, "Do you want me to give you a list of all the events this semester?"

Still, there doesn't seem to be any need for any of the underclassmen to attend. Maybe there's not any direct communication between those organizations and students. Or maybe the freshmen, sophomores and most of the juniors are filling up the Field House and the Upper Commons every weekend, but I doubt it. As far as I've heard, Bayside is still the popular on-campus destination.

The Bristol Phoenix published an article back in December announcing the replacement of a small martini bar, The Anchor, with a new English-style pub called British Beer Company. It seems like a more low-key environment for something different; I think it seems like a nice change-up, but while it's under repair, how many of us are stuck on repeat?

Say you're at Gillary's, 21 of course, and the drink in your hand is practically empty, so you swig the last sip back, butt through the crowd and slap your elbows on the bar. You fend off your territory like a wolf, because you know how difficult it can be to get anyone's attention, or even hear. But if I were at the bar, I continue to think I'd rather spend my words on good conversation and if I can help it, less money in general.

Hate crime on campus What an RWU student thinks of prejudice

AMANDA PEIXOTO | Herald Reporter

As many of you have heard, a hate crime was committed here at Roger Williams University in late January. A racially biased word and figure were found on the white board outside of a student's room. Public Safety was notified, and they immediately put their Bias Incidence Response Protocol into action. The perpetrator(s) still have not been caught, and although the school is doing everything within their power to find them, chances seem slim. When I heard of this incident, I felt sympathy toward the victim of this crime. No one should feel unsafe on their own college campus, especially when they live away from home and their parents. It makes me feel angry to think of just how far someone can go with their own bias.

I think hate crimes are cowardly and cruel. No single person on this planet has the right to judge another solely based on how they look or act. This may be the "Land of the Free," but I think anybody who abuses their freedom of speech

needs a serious wake up call. If haters could see through the eyes of the individual they hurt, maybe then they would see how much of an impact they can have on a person. That old saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me," only applies to a certain point. Here's a reality check: words

No single person on this planet has the right to judge another solely based on how they look or act.

can hurt. They may not break bones or cause physical injury, but they can bring down self-esteem and push some people to the point where they don't think life is worth living. I don't believe hate is restricted to race alone, but also to those who are different from what most would consider "normal". But truthfully, try and define normal; what one finds normal is different to another.

There is nothing more malicious than an act of hate. It

makes my blood boil when I hear about hate crimes. I think they're spineless and just plain unreasonable. Sometimes people think they can just run their mouths and do what they want without fully realizing just how dim-witted they sound. There's no logic to hate. It is an emotion triggered by fear and fueled by the desire to avoid change and admitting one's own faults. When I hear of hate crimes, I think of the victims of bullying and bias and I honestly wonder how some of these people can do the things they do without worrying about their conscience. There is no written law that says one race is superior to another, there is no law that says one has the right to bully another based on how they look or act. Bullies and racists are cowards who are too afraid to deal with something that may be greater than themselves. To these people, I say it's time to get over yourself and your bias ways of thinking. If you spend your entire lives hating something or someone just because they are not like you, then you'll soon realize just how alone you really are.

Political Three-Way: Should the U.S. have closed their embassy in Syria?

Democrat:
Yes!

CHRISTOPHER MUNSEY
Herald Contributor

The American Embassy in Syria closed earlier this month due to nearly a year of violent protest against the Syrian government. The embassy has been scaling back its staff in preparation for this, knowing that without support from the Syrians, protecting the American staff would be almost impossible. Although this limits our intelligence on the uprising, it was the best decision in a bad situation. Keeping the embassy open would have only endangered the lives of its workers. It would be beneficial for the United States to have a direct line to the conflict, but diplomacy comes second when hundreds of employees and the American ambassador to Syria could be overpowered by the protesters. That said, the United States needs to play a part in preventing the spread of violence in and around the country. More than 6000 people have been killed, with hundreds more added to that number each day. In August, President Obama called for President Al-Assad to step down and let his government reorganize itself into something that the public would support. He refused, and each day orders more and more attacks on his own citizens. This is not acceptable under any circumstance, but we're almost powerless to stop it without any sort of military intervention. I don't believe we've reached that point, but President Obama has to make sure that this uprising does not spread to Syria's neighbors and destabilize the region. With the embassy closed, we are relying on the intelligence of our allies who have yet to pull their diplomats out of the country. All the United States can do is wait to see if the conflict calms down, other than this there is almost nothing that can be done without an embassy, or without going in to fix the problem ourselves. Closing the embassy was the smartest decision the government could have made at the moment, but eventually we will need to reestablish our presence in the country. Until then we can only hope that Syria pushes through this difficult time in its history through a peaceful solution.

Independent:
Yes!

PATRICK CONNOLLY
Herald Contributor

The U.S. has closed its embassy in Syria. Good. That place is a hell-hole right now, and it should be the last place we want to be. Every time we get involved over there, we either start a war and put some radical nut job in office that is willing to deal with Israel and accept our foreign aid, or we start a war and try to set up a democracy that would act like a puppet for the U.S. I really have no reason to try and fill in another 258 words to drag on my support of this move by the U.S. Anyone who thinks that the U.S. should get directly involved in this fiasco is living under a rock - a very big rock.



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Syrian flag placed over U.S. Embassy

Republican:
Yes!

MATTHEW PAIGE
Herald Contributor

The United States seems to always be in conflict over whether to intervene during times of crises in foreign lands. When the US does, it is met with criticism for interfering with a sovereign nation; and when we do not, the US is being insensitive to oppressed people.

In the case of Syria, people are protesting against President Assad, and demanding his removal from office. The government has responded by cracking down on protesters with force, and destroying many rights that we believe are fundamental. Reaction from the Arab League came in the form of tough sanctions on Syria, and demands to allow 'observers' into the country to give an accurate report on what is happening. While Syria has not yet allowed observers in, they are attempting to negotiate an end to the sanctions, proving that they are having a detrimental affect on President Assad's grasp on power.

So what does the United States do? What is left to do? A series of diplomatic actions and calls to actions from both within the UN and the Arab League have garnered support from around the region, without much assistance from the US, so there is no need for US involvement.

In fact, should the US intervene, it is not likely to have the positive affects for us that we would expect. For example, after the US gave military assistance to the rebels fighting in Libya, one would expect that the new government in Libya would be pro-American and relations between the countries would be strong. Instead, the 'Muslim Brotherhood', a radical and violent group, which holds very strong anti-West views, has come to power.

American involvement in the region has a very limited upside. While the rights of humans need to be protected, the US is not 'world police.' Stay out of the conflict and let the Arab League handle their own problems.

Fashion Column: Casual Friday

KRISTIN DONO | Herald Reporter

I found Lauren in the Lower Commons Friday afternoon wearing this simple and adorable outfit that is perfect for when you don't feel like putting something elaborate together, but also aren't in the mood for your typical Friday yoga pant ensemble. What made Lauren's outfit a step up from just wearing jeans and a t-shirt was the fur-trimmed vest. This way she was very comfortable and casual, but still stepping it up a bit.

This winter, fur vests have been a great trend especially since the weather has been so warm. They are the perfect alternative to wearing a jacket because they keep you warm without the bulk that comes along with your typical winter jacket and acts as an adorable accessory.

Another thing that I absolutely loved about her vest was that it is reversible so she is able to wear it with the fur showing or with it just showing around the edges. This vest is a very versatile piece that can be made even dressier by wearing it with all of the fur showing. Having all of the fur on the outside makes a much bolder statement and will attract a lot more attention to your style, so you might need to save that look for a more daring day.

Lauren also really hit this by mismatching her black vest with brown leather boots. I know that many people think that you can't mix brown and blacks, but the contrasts between the lighter boots that she is wearing with the dark black and browns in her vest complimented each other perfectly.

So next Friday morning when you are actually considering not getting "dressed up" for class, remember that adding a simple pop of color (or fur in this case) can make any average outfit look a lot more striking.



Name: Lauren Astone
Year: Freshman
Major: Criminal Justice

Braided Bliss: Score the season's hottest woven 'dos in your own dorm

MARY CONCANNON | Herald Reporter

Little House on the Prairie made them iconic, Lara Croft: Tomb Raider made them daring, and Lauren Conrad made them mainstream with subtle and trendy ways to lace them into everyday styles. Braids have come a long way since their Pippi Longstocking days, but achieving the most coveted woven 'dos is hardly effortless.

Two braided do's stand out as winter's go-to styles: the intricate, delicate fishtail braid (made famous by Orlando Bloom's blonde, elf character in Lord of the Rings), and the bohemian waterfall braid, seen on the locks of stylish celebs like braid guru L.C.

My hair routine typically encompasses straightening irons, ponytails and the occasional clip. So while I'd like to say that I could achieve these intertwined looks solo, I've enlisted the help of Nicholas Penna Jr., owner and lead stylist of SalonCapri in Dedham and Newton, Mass. Penna has lent his expertise to help us recreate these stylish braids at home.

The Fishtail Braid

With a little guidance, the fishtail braid is a lot less time-intensive than it looks. For the basic fishtail, start with dry, straight or wavy hair, and let your hair fall at its natural part. To keep your hair from slipping as you work it into the braid, Penna recommends spritzing the lower half of your hair lightly with water. Next, gather your locks in a low ponytail at the back or side of your head, depending on where you want your braid to fall, and divide your strands into two sections at the nape of your neck.

Penna suggests beginning the style by taking a small piece of hair from the outside of your left section and crossing it over, adding it to your left section of hair. Next, grab a small section of hair from the right

side and cross it over to the left portion, pulling slightly to secure. (Nineties girls like me will recognize this routine motion from crafting plastic gimp bracelets in the "zipper stitch.")

Continue this process, alternating from side to side and pulling to tighten the braid with each repetition. Repeat this method until you've reached a point a couple inches from the bottom of your hair, and secure the ends with a thin, clear elastic. To optimize this style, Penna uses a thermal hair spray like Shu Uemura's Protective Thermal Spray, which is reinforced by heat to make the style long-lasting.

For a sexy, messy spin on the sleek version of this look, Penna recommends keeping the braid loose by not pulling and tightening as you weave your strands.

The Waterfall Braid

"The 'waterfall braid,' a newer



MARY CONCANNON variation on the classic French braid, is a little harder to master outside of the salon, but can be achieved with a little practice, especially if you consider French braids a cakewalk.

Penna suggests dry straight or wavy hair as a starting point for this style, and recommends the addition of a smoothing serum on hair shafts and ends for easy styling. His go-to serum

is L'Oreal Professional Texture-line.

Start the braid by collecting a small portion of hair at the top of one side of your head, divide it in thirds, and begin with one traditional French braid stitch. Instead of continuing with the French braid, drop the right section and let it fall along the side of your head.

Penna's instruction is to pick up a new piece of hair in the dropped section's place, as well as a new piece on the left side, like a traditional French braid, and braid the three sections again, dropping the right portion once you've completed the stitch.

Continue this process, wrapping the waterfall braid toward the back of your head as you go. Once you've passed the crown of your head with the waterfall braid, end the style with a traditional braid, securing the bottom with an elastic. To add a little glamour to this bohemian 'do, Penna suggests the addition of a flower or jeweled clip where the waterfall braid and traditional braid meet.

These styles can be worn for occasions as casual as class, or dressed-up with accessories for



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